The Cleveland Museum of Art

Press Release

July 21, 1995 Contact: Greg Donley, x263

MARILYN MONROE TO WOW CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART FILMGOERS
Marilyn Times Five
Wednesday evenings, 7:30 pm, August 2-30, 1995
Admission $4, $3 CMA members.

The exhibition *Elvis + Marilyn: 2 x Immortal* provides the Cleveland Museum of Art the perfect opportunity to stage a mini-retrospective of the films of Marilyn Monroe. As part of the Wednesday Evening Festivals this August, the museum offers five great movies that reveal the late star's talents as a dramatic actress and comedienne. In 1953, she played a calculating newlywed with an ambition for widowhood in the gripping thriller *Niagara*. Later that same year, her career took off as she played an aspiring singer from Little Rock setting off for Paris in the musical comedy, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes,* and then joined up hilariously with Betty Grable and Lauren Becall to pursue eligible bachelors in *How To Marry A Millionaire.* In 1955, at the height of her stardom, she played the ditzy blonde role to campy perfection in *The Seven Year Itch*. Her poignant role of disillusioned divorcee in 1961's *The Misfits,* a movie written especially for her by soon-to-be-ex-husband Arthur Miller, proved to be her last before her death in 1962. A sixth Marilyn classic, 1959's *Some Like it Hot,* shows at 1:30 pm, Sunday, August 6, as part of the museum's **100 Years of Magic** series of history's best films.

Wednesday, August 2, 7:30 *Niagara* (USA, 1953, color, 89 min.). Henry Hathaway directs MM as a newlywed who schemes to murder her husband (Joseph Cotten) during a honeymoon from hell. Rare I.B. Technicolor print!
Wednesday, August 9, 7:30 *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* (USA, 1953, color, 91 min.). Howard Hawks directs a seafaring comedy with Jane Russell, Charles Coburn, and MM, who sings "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend."
Wednesday, August 16, 7:30 *How To Marry a Millionaire* (USA, 1953, color, scope, 95 min.). Jean Negulesco directs MM, Betty Grable, Lauren Bacall, and William Powell. Three gold diggers pursue eligible bachelors in the first film shot in CinemaScope.
Wednesday, August 23, 7:30 *The Seven Year Itch* (USA, 1955, color, scope, 105 min.). Directed by Billy Wilder, with MM and Tom Ewell. While his wife vacations, hubby ogles and flirts with his new upstairs neighbor.
Wednesday, August 30, 7:30 *The Misfits* (USA, 1961, b&w, 124 min.). John Huston directs Clark Gable's and MM's last movie, in a contemporary story of down-and-out ex-cowboys. With Montgomery Clift; script by Arthur Miller.

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